

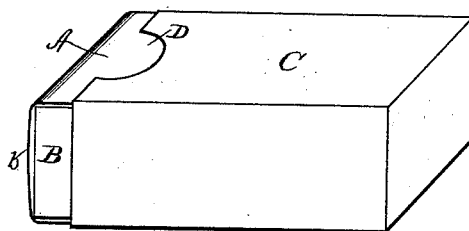
(No Model.)

W. A. WEED.  
CLAMP OR HOLDER AND BOX FOR SOAP.

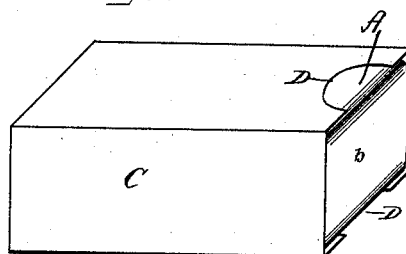
No. 423,296.

Patented Mar. 11, 1890.

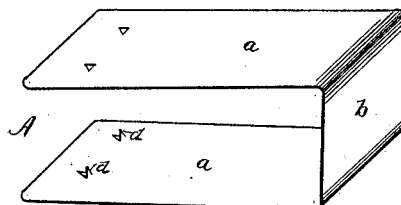
*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 3.*



*Witnesses:*  
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Arthur C. Clarke.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM A. WEED, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

## CLAMP OR HOLDER AND BOX FOR SOAP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 423,296, dated March 11, 1890.

Application filed December 5, 1889. Serial No. 332,665. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM A. WEED, of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Clamps or Holders and Boxes for Soap, &c., of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to a certain improvement, hereinafter specifically claimed, involving the employment of a box of the class having a body or case closed at one end and open at the other end to receive a sliding cover for closing said open end; and my objects are to provide a simple and inexpensive clamp or holder for cakes of tooth-soap, shaving-soap, and other articles, and to adapt such holder to slide within the box, close its open end, and confine the cake of soap, &c., which holder, when withdrawn, carries the clamped article with it and may be grasped by the fingers while the article is being used—as, for instance, in rubbing a tooth-brush over the soap and applying lather to the face.

In the accompanying drawings, which show a suitable embodiment of my invention, Figure 1 is a view in perspective showing the box-case with its end-closer clamping a cake of soap and partially withdrawn from the box-case. Fig. 2 is a similar view showing the clamp in place in the box-case, and Fig. 3 a like view of the clamp alone.

A flexible clamp or yielding holder A, best constructed of spring metal, is made open at one end and at opposite sides, so as to be substantially U-shaped and of a size to receive, in this instance, a cake of tooth-soap B, to be clamped thereby. A box-case or body C, open only at one end, and by preference of metal, is made of dimensions such as to adapt its open end to be closed by the holder when it, with the soap clamped between its jaws *a*, is slid into the case. The parts should be so proportioned that when the holder is slid into the case the holder is caused to yield or spring slightly at its end *b*, thus insuring sufficient frictional contact between the holder and box-case to retain the holder and soap in place in the box and close the end thereof by the holder end *b*. To provide for this compression of the holder to removably clamp it in the box-case, the holder at and near its end *b* is made of a width between its jaws slightly

in excess of the thickness of the soap-cake B or equivalent article to be clamped. The distance between the yielding jaws at and toward their outer ends should be somewhat less than the thickness of the article to be clamped, so that when it is inserted between the jaws they are slightly spread apart, thus exerting a clamping action on the article.

To insure a firmer grasp upon the article by the holder than would result merely from frictional contact therewith of the holder, I provide one or more inward projections *d* upon each jaw of the holder, which may, as shown, be formed by short lips or spurs struck or punched from the material constituting the jaws and near the outer ends thereof.

To enable the combined holder and box-end cover to be readily grasped by the fingers to withdraw it from the box-case, notches or finger-slots D are provided in the case at its open end.

From the above description it will be seen that by grasping the holder in the fingers the article carried thereby becomes firmly clamped for use; that by releasing the holder-jaws from pressure of the fingers, and, if needed, slightly spreading apart the jaws, the article may be adjusted to different positions and caused to project more or less from the holder, and then again clamped; that when the holder is shoved into the box-case the end of the case is closed and the holder and contained article secured within the box-case, and that in opening the box by removal of the holder the clamped article is withdrawn with it. It will further be understood that when a cake of soap is clamped it may be held without coming in contact with the fingers, and that it may be adjusted in the holder as consumed by use, as by rubbing a tooth-brush upon it or in rubbing the soap upon the face for shaving.

I do not wish to be understood as confining my invention in all respects to the precise details of construction and arrangement hereinbefore described, as various modifications may be made without departure from my improvements—as, for instance, by the employment of other material than metal; by providing a finger-hold or handle upon the holder for withdrawing it from the box-case; by providing the projections *d* near the inner ends

of the holder-jaws instead of toward their outer ends, thus rendering unnecessary the endwise adjustment of tooth-soap, the open sides of the holder admitting the tooth-brush to the soap until it is used up, and by forming the projections by roughening, corrugating, or ribbing the inner sides of the jaws instead of by the formation of the pointed projections shown.

10 I claim as my invention—

The combination of the box-case open only at one end and the holder or clamp for a cake

of soap, &c., formed with the two yielding jaws united at one end and open at one end and at opposite sides, and serving to close the end of the box-case, substantially as and for the purpose set forth. 15

In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name.

WILLIAM A. WEED.

Witnesses:

E. P. KASTLER.

ADOLF G. VOGELER.